

**Chuck Smith**

Assistant Athletic Director shares testimony of serving TJC and his country.

Feature on p.4

**TMA high school exhibit**

Museum shows off what next year's college freshmen can do.

Story on p.10

# THE DRUMBEAT

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Photo by Marshall Gearfoss

## Wienerland set to return in May

Suspense ends for hotspot revival

**Colten Sneed**  
News Editor

The long-awaited return of a local favorite restaurant has come. Wienerland, located directly across Fifth Street from the White Administration Building, will reopen its doors this May under new ownership.

Wienerland closed their doors to the public in August of 2016. The restaurant closed due to the passing of then owners, David and Mary Pessink. David passed away January 29, 2016, and his wife, Mary was laid to rest three days later. Both passed at the age of 61.

Two Tyler couples have become the new co-owners of Wienerland. Michael and Lindsey Harrison and John and Ashley Feldman were long-time customers who are eager to take over ownership.

"I thought maybe the family would take it over. I wasn't quite sure, but we did a bunch of research when we found out it had closed and we realized it was open for lease," said Mrs. Harrison.

After the research was complete, the new owners saw the need for the restaurant to reopen. They contacted a myriad of people, including food distributors for information before signing the lease.

— see WIENERLAND page 9 —

— see CADETS page 9 —

— see THEATRE page 7 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

— see NEWS page 9 —

— see SPORTS page 9 —

— see ARTS page 9 —

— see EVENTS page 9 —

— see FEATURES page 9 —

— see OPINION page 9 —

— see STUDENT LIFE page 9 —

# opinion

p.2

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## Guest Column



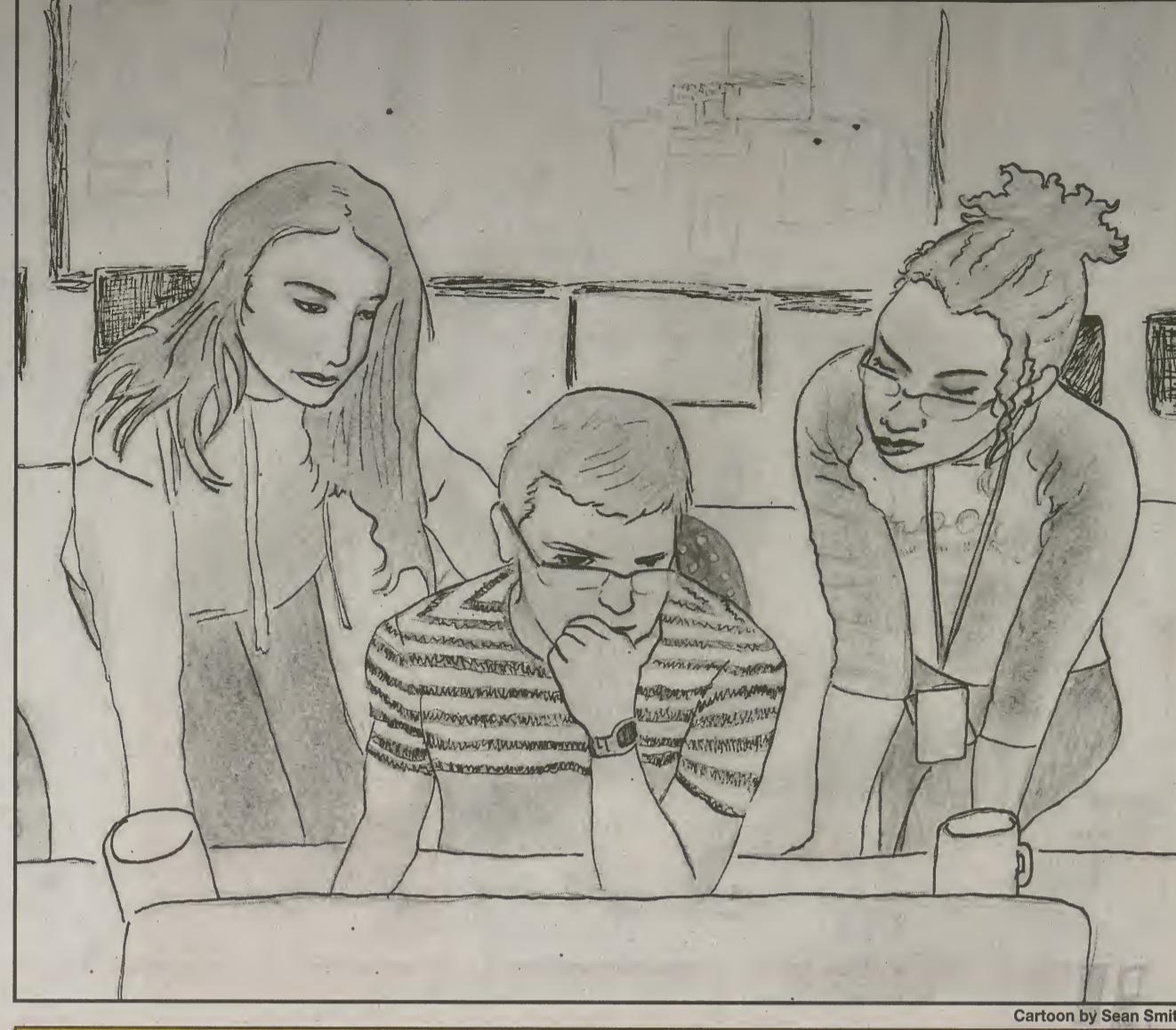
**Aaron Dees**  
Phi Theta Kappa

## Phi Theta Kappa boosts your chances

Everyone has watched a commercial for a new, limited-time fast food item. They always look delicious on the commercial, but sometimes when the pimply kid behind the counter hands you a half-wrapped, disarrayed mass of processed disgustingness, you soon realize that you are a victim of marketing trickery and, quite possibly, food poisoning. I think it's human nature to be slightly skeptical of the information we are given, but from someone who has experienced what Phi Theta Kappa has to offer, I can guarantee that it's nothing like that sketchy time at Taco Bell. Just the other day, my friend got an email from Harvard admissions. The subject title? Phi Theta Kappa. This well-renowned honor society provides much more than just a place mark at the bottom of a résumé; Phi Theta Kappa provides a wealth of scholarship money, an opportunity to exercise one's character within the community, a way to build lasting connections with like-minded people and the closest thing at a community college to the university experience.

Directly from my involvement with Phi Theta Kappa, I have managed to land a second job as an AVID tutor at Robert E. Lee High School, secure a nationally funded engineering research grant in West Texas for the summer and gain admission into the Texas Tech Honors College and Whitacre College of Engineering for fall 2017. I am also currently in a competitive running for over a dozen other leadership-based scholarships. I believe in giving credit where credit is due, and Phi Theta Kappa deserves the most of the credit for helping me seek out these new and exciting opportunities, as well as credit to the members that have helped motivate me to achieve all of my ambitions.

— see PTK page 9 —



Cartoon by Sean Smith

## Editorial

## Stay passionate, despite what others tell you

Journalism often feels thankless. It is a job where you feel like you are running as fast as you possibly can 100% of the time. You never feel like you can make it on time. You spend countless nights in the newsroom until 3 a.m. Almost all of your time is spent thinking you produce sub-par work. Most of the feedback you receive is negative (some is constructive, but most is people just being upset). It's a job many would be considered mental to pursue. For student journalists, we also have the typical stresses of college life to add on top of all this.

Near the end of March, The DrumBeat won a total of 42 awards (more than several notable universities) at the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association. TJC's journalism staff typically wins copious awards at this annual conference, often ousting universities. Although it sounds like we are stroking our own ego, this conference is actually an event of relief for us. It's a much-needed break from the stressful life of a journalist. It's proof that, while we're our own worst critics, someone else is seeing the fruit of our labor. Someone else sees what we produce and believes that it deserves recognition.

This, ultimately, is a revelation everyone needs to have in their own lives. While journalism is a tiring career, we still acknowledge that everyone has a fair share of stress in their own respective paths. We all have deadlines. We all have bosses who demand more. We all have set goals that feel impossible to achieve. Many of us don't feel adequate.

But, like the judges at TIPA, there is always someone who appreciates the hard work we all put into our goals. It may not be apparent to the laborer, but there's almost always a person of power who silently observes effort. That, in essence, is the goal of college. Our time here gives us a taste of what the real world entails. Receiving this criticism while putting everything into what we value allows us to experience what awaits us in the professional world. If someone gives you harsh criticism you don't deserve, or simply aims to tear you away from what you're passionate about, don't get discouraged. In fact, never get discouraged. This is your life. This is what makes you proud. While being recognized for your effort is great, your greatness doesn't depend on someone else's critique.

## Planned Parenthood is not an enemy

Vice President Mike Pence made his tie-breaking Senate vote Thursday, March 30, favoring to pass a law allowing states to stop federal funding of Planned Parenthood and other healthcare providers that perform abortions. While many people may see this as an accomplishment, I feel that this is (yet another) step back for our country.

For over 100 years, both men and women have had access to affordable healthcare through Planned Parenthood. The nonprofit organization provides general healthcare services such as flu vaccines, physical exams and diabetes screenings. However, what they're more known for is their sexual and reproductive health services.

Abortion is often the first thing that comes to mind when we think of Planned Parenthood, but not all locations provide them. Planned Parenthood's main focus is to help prevent unwanted pregnancies and the spread of STIs. They do this by providing affordable methods of contraception, HIV testing, STI testing, treatment and vaccines and pregnancy testing. This organization helps you take control of your sexual health at an affordable rate. Choosing not to fund this organization would affect millions of people across the country, including people here in Tyler.

As college students, know that this affects you too. If you're anything like me and don't receive financial help from your parents, all the money you have is earned on your own. And since we're in school, we're probably working somewhere that doesn't pay us enough to visit the doctor regularly. But since there is a Planned Parenthood here in town, I have a place to go to if I wanted affordable birth control or needed some testing done. Whether you're pro-choice or

## Column



**Rebecca Najera**  
Editor-in-Chief

pro-life, services are there for you.

While I feel that I wouldn't get an abortion if I were to become pregnant, I also feel that it isn't my place to tell someone else what they're allowed to do with their body. I especially don't think a group that is mainly comprised of men should be able to decide what a woman is allowed to do with her body either. But as mentioned before, not all Planned Parenthood locations provide abortions. If abortions were to be outlawed, I feel that people would still find a way to get them done. I'd rather them do it somewhere where the person providing it is experienced versus from someone she might have met online.

Discontinuing the funding of Planned Parenthood not only affects women, but it affects men too. I can only hope that people educate themselves on what this law means to millions of Americans.

## Anti-intellectualism is infecting society

Ignorance is easy. It doesn't require much thought. When we willfully throw facts to the side in favor of supporting a narrative or belief system that is undoubtedly unhealthy, everyone loses. We see it with climate change deniers. We saw it with the rise of populism and the election of the 45th president. There are folks who would strip evolution and sex education from public schools. Things like gay conversion therapy, alternative facts, defunding of arts programs and laws that open up opportunity for discrimination are all products of one central infection in the heart of America, appropriately called anti-intellectualism.

You can find it in your own backyard. It's the racist neighbor, the sexist boss, the overly-aggressive cop or even your religiously-biased judge or professor. Anti-intellectualism has held up the progress of society for ages. Scientists and artists have been persecuted for centuries for presenting new facts that went against established ideals. There's no doubt that as college students living in East Texas, we see a lot of examples of anti-intellectual rhetoric. There's nothing wrong with having religious beliefs, but some of the more extreme forms of faith stake their claim here in the southern Bible belt. Political wars waged in ages past against gay rights see the flames rekindled with the dawn of a new administration. Racism is still rampant. You can walk through Tyler and likely find a middle-aged white man who still believes Barack Obama is a Kenyan Muslim. Not that there is even anything wrong with being either of those things, but according to this hypothetical person, there is.

Such disdain for anything new, unfamiliar or inconvenient is a rancid sickness of thought, but luckily there are several cures. Culture can provide perspective. Take time to travel in your life and go somewhere where they don't speak

## Column



**Rob King**  
Staff Writer

your language. Read books and learn about different philosophies and religions. Stay up to date with reliable news sources. Learn how to determine what a reliable news source is. Reach for the ever-elusive concept of media literacy.

Don't retaliate against your less-informed neighbor, rather show them empathy. Compassion may be the single greatest cure for this problem. Inform them but don't force your rhetoric upon them. Sometimes people need time to come around and sometimes they never will. The best thing you can do is educate yourself and stand firm in the facts. Be a beacon of enlightenment for others to follow. Anger and resentment only leads to a closed mind and this, in effect, will make you an anti-intellectual. That being said, I'm certainly not perfect. Keeping an open mind and avoiding hypocrisy is a life-long struggle. Luckily, struggle is a key component in evolution.

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## Art Club hosts biannual canned food drive

Members ask students and faculty for help by donating non-perishable items

**Colten Sneed**  
News Editor

The eleventh annual spring canned food drive is now underway. The food drive, sponsored by the Art Club, will last the entirety of the month of April. The Art Club hosts the food drive which started 11 years ago, and is held every fall and spring semester.

"We were approached by a woman named Charlene Steed who worked at with an organization here in town called, 'Tyler AIDS services.' Her husband contracted

Derrick White.

Steed approached White before starting the food drive along with representatives from UT Tyler and Texas College. She made it a competition to see what school could raise the most canned food. TJC beat UT Tyler and Texas College by 1,500 cans. From that point on, Steed came directly to TJC and asked to do the canned food drive.

"In her honor, because over the years I have lost contact with her and assuming she passed on due to her being older in age, we

with the canned food drive with past works of community service. White believes this is why Steed initially reached out to the Art Club. White also feels that this is not just an Art Club community service project, but it is an entire college project.

"Students who want to be involved can either drop it off directly to us and we'll collect cans in the Jenkins Hall Art Department Lobby, they can bring it here or to me personally or to an Art Club member," said White. "If they don't want to do that they can take it to other departments or other buildings. Even the West Campus gets involved."

Other departments that have been involved include departments from Pirtle and the Surgical Technology program as well as different honor societies. With increased student involvement over the years, the numbers of cans are expected to rise for this semester.

"Last semester's food drive was one of the largest we have ever had. We usually average 2,000 food

items that we donate to what is now called 'East Texas Cares,' it is still essentially an extension of that

past few years is Sophomore Art Major Jeri Hubbard.

"With this particular food

**"It's good to see people at a junior college donating that much food."**

-Jeri Hubbard  
Sophomore Art Major

original 'Tyler AIDS Services.'

They still have a food pantry, and still do a lot of community support," said White. "Without this canned food drive that we host twice a year, I don't know how they can offer aid. They have told us it is very vital."

White sees this canned food drive as a learning experience for students. By being involved with community service now, later in life he believes students will be more likely to be involved and using this experience as a pay-it-forward kind of experience. One student who has been involved the

drive, it's really cool because it's a food drive that really accumulates a lot of donations," said Hubbard. "It's amazing to see students and faculty and even the science department donate food. It's good to see people at a junior college donating that much food."

Volunteers are welcome to help distribute the canned food. For information about donations, distribution or the food drive, email Derrick White at [dwhi@tjc.edu](mailto:dwhi@tjc.edu), or by calling (903)-510-2233. Questions can also be asked in person at the Art Lobby in Jenkins Hall.

**"Last semester's food drive was one of the largest we have ever had."**

-Derrick White

Art Department Chair and Faculty Sponsor of the Art Club

and died from AIDS from a blood transfusion he had during surgery," said Art Department Chair and faculty sponsor for the Art Club

have dedicated ourselves to do it every semester the past decade since," said White.

The Art Club got involved



Courtesy Photo

**LOAD IT UP** volunteers assist with the loading of canned food to be delivered to 'East Texas Cares' in the 2016 spring semester. The 2017 spring semester Art Club food drive will last until the end of April.

## Repairs for damaged RSC walkway beginning in summer

**Marshall Gearfoss**  
Managing Editor

Plans are in the works to permanently fix the damaged walkway surface in front of Rogers Student Center.

"Since I've been here, six years, we've had problems with this," said Mark Gartman, the associate director of facilities and construction.

This isn't the first time that this particular walkway has given

has been so difficult on repeated occasions.

"It's like road surfaces, you see it all the time on bridges -- they have the same problem," said Gartman. "The pavement buckles, because the structure moved more than the surface did."

Instead of simply replacing the patch of tile again, which probably wouldn't prevent future buckling, Gartman has proposed to completely strip the tile from the walkway. They

**"There's nothing wrong with that walkway, it's just got the wrong material."**

-Mark Gartman  
Associate Director of Facilities and Construction



Photo by Marshall Gearfoss

**CRACK-A-LACKIN'** Although the tiles frequently experience damage like this, it isn't necessarily a sign of poor construction. This flooring was installed when Rogers Student Center was first built in the late '80s.

students and faculty problems. The buckling tiles are a result of the structure reacting to the cycles of extreme heat and cold throughout the year. In the summer heat, it expands, and subsequently contracts in the cold.

"After winter, we've always had problems with this thing," said Gartman. "There's nothing wrong with that walkway, it's just got the wrong material ... This tile is not a movable material, it's a hard material, like a cracker. It breaks."

The walkway, much like an elevated concrete bridge, is more susceptible to weather than a grounded path, which is why this particular part of the walkway

will be replacing it with a rubberized material similar to that found on an outdoor running track.

"It's supposed to have a 20 to 25 year lifespan. It's soft, and it's with a glue that doesn't get hard. ... So now when this thing twists and moves around, it'll move with it," said Gartman.

Since the entire walkway will be blocked during construction, Gartman plans to wait until after the end of the semester to begin renovations.

"It's a six-to-eight-week process to get this material in and to get everything prepped. Of course, it's going to be a big process," said Gartman.

# sports

p.4

**speakOUT**

Contact *The Drumbeat* Sports Editor Benjamin Savallo with questions, comments or concerns at [bsavallo@email.tjc.edu](mailto:bsavallo@email.tjc.edu).

April 7-20, 2017 • [thedrumbeat.com](http://thedrumbeat.com)

## Chuck Smith serves his school and his country

### Assistant Athletic Director aims for 40 plus years in the Reserve

**Benjamin Savallo**  
Sports Editor

Since 2006, many have seen him around campus usually involved with anything Apache Athletics here at Tyler Junior College. But most aren't aware of what the Intercollegiate Athletic Associate Director Chuck Smith does in his time away from TJC and away from home.

"One of the hardest parts is life goes on; games still happen here, new recruits come in, new college students on campus, new people at work, everything moves on like a normal typical day-to-day," said Chuck Smith. "For me, I left in January and now I'm playing catch-up."

Mr. Smith enlisted July 3, 2001, in Operations Management for the Reserve and has since worked his way through the ranks of Logistics Officer and Squadron Officer in the Reserve for 16 years come this summer. In 2001, Smith was drawn



Courtesy Photo

to the idea of joining the service by the interest that was sparked by what some of his former classmates were working on in other countries.

"Talking to the recruiter, I had settled on that Operations Management for a Red Horse Unit because they had got to go down to Central America, down to the islands and doing all these water-well humanitarian missions and building schools, you know that'd be cool. It'd be a way to get into the service and still go to school," said Smith. "Once in, I was hooked."

It was because of the closeness and 'family-style' his assigned unit came to be that hooked Smith. Reserve units tend to stay together longer than active duty units, who are moved around every couple of years, according to Smith. This gave Chuck a chance to really get to know the ladies and gentlemen of his unit.

"Going through some of the training that we went through, you just build that comradery. And then it was just second nature I wanted to reenlist and let's go," said Smith.

**"One of the hardest parts is life goes on; games still happen here, new recruits come in, new students on campus..."**

-Chuck Smith  
Asst. Athletic Director

Once Chuck got a taste for the feeling of patriotism and the drive this career path gave him, he needed much more. That drive is what fuels him to make a commitment every day to the reserves.

"If that means, unfortunately being away from family for a couple of months for a training or a deployment and all that fun stuff then you know at times it sucks being away but at the same time, my goal is to always go home... and get the joys of family, friends and of course this place," said Smith with a chuckle.

This place, of course, being TJC. Chuck will have been here 11 years when May rolls around.

Looking toward his future in the reserves, Chuck Smith believes he still has quite a bit of gas left in the tank after being a member since the age of 19.

"I've been in almost 16 years, I'll probably be in another 15, 16 years or at least another 14 years in will give me at least 40 years in the reserves," said Smith.

Now, after being in the service for this long, Smith explained it is more of just a financial look ahead due to retirement being controlled by Congress. As well as all the different systems that have been set up to pay some of that money back for additional retirement and insurance for his family.

## Concussion protocol comes into play for softball this season

**Isaiah Thornton**  
Staff Writer

Recently, the lady Apaches softball team lost one of their 17 all-stars, Freshman Utility Player Brianne Paysinger, when she suffered a concussion at practice.

"I was playing second base at the time because I'm a utility player. We play foul balls a lot, so I crossed the line and the third baseman threw it and it ricocheted off the runner's helmet and hit me in the face," said Paysinger.

Head Athletic Trainer Eddy McGuire said TJC has a concussion protocol for student-athletes. As they have a baseline concussion test which is an important piece for concussion management. Each concussion is unique, so it is important to treat individuals on a case-by-case basis. Comparing post-injury test scores of an individual to their own baseline test scores from before the concussion is considered best practice.

"We do have baseline testing for our athletes to take a concussion test at the beginning of the year, then if they do get one, we have them retest. There is no pass or fail but we use it as a tool to help us because reaction times do change, we don't rely on that all the time. It's just a tool we use," said McGuire.

This type of injury is taken very seriously in the medical



**CONNECTING** Freshman Utility Player Brianne Paysinger connects with the ball in the double header against Northeast Texas Community College on April 1, 2017.

field with 33 percent of all sports concussions happening at practice and not in live games. Student-athletes must be symptom-free for 24 hours before starting the activity phase of the protocol.

"We take steps when it comes to this kind of stuff. The second step is we do a light exercise but no head impact sports. Third is more vigorous but non-contact training drills and the fourth and final step is normal full-contact practice after medical clearances. Then the student athlete can return to playing," said McGuire.

Paysinger was out for 10 days, missing six games. She says she is fine and her biggest goal this season is

leading on the field.

Since her return, the lady Apaches have played well, only losing one game in conference play. They have picked up some accolades along the way as the softball team has made its way up the national rankings to the ninth team in the nation and added a few more region 14 players of the week with Hailie Webb and Kelly Mardones.

"I feel like we've progressed a lot -- preseason was really hard. We were playing division one schools and getting our butts-kicked, and now we're competing with other schools at a very high level," said Paysinger.

Head Softball Coach Maria Winn said Paysinger hasn't skipped a beat since her return, and that people wouldn't be able to tell that she was out for 10 days.

"There's not a lot of words you can use to describe Brianne Paysinger, she is just a unique young lady and she bats at the top of the lineup for us and that's a hard role to fill," said Coach Winn. "Her presence is indescribable as she always has a smile on her face and gives you her best effort day in and day out. From a coaching standpoint, everyone wants a Brianne Paysinger on their team."



**GEAR UP** Freshman Utility Player Brianne Paysinger prepares for the pitch from the Kilgore College and rares back for another swing in their double header on March 22, 2017.

## Apache Athletics acts as a trampoline to the next level

Many athletes seek out TJC as a second chance, a saving grace if you will, for their athletic careers. Many athletes start out at the top of the recruiting board and then something unpredictable happens like a torn acl, a broken bone or a concussion or two that puts a halt on the futures of these athletes. Take current starting Quarterback Carter McCown for example.

McCown was highly recruited coming out of high school but then suffered a season-ending knee injury while at Jacksonville High School. And whether it seems fair or not, it definitely sends players downward on the recruiting board, and that's just how sports work. But later that season McCown signed on at TJC in hopes to revive his career behind the center. With a chance to shine this year at the starting position, he is hoping to use TJC as a 'trampoline' to get to the division one level.

As insensitive as that sounds, that's really what TJC's athletic program is all about. Now don't get me wrong, they still count the wins and losses here and keep up with how many rings they keep behind the glass, but at the end of the day

it is about improving each player's skills enough so that they will catch the eye of some division one universities. Last year's starting Quarterback, McLane Carter, prospered in quite the same way as he signed on to Texas Tech earlier this year.

Numerous amounts of players have taken this same route. TJC is a very well-known college not just nationally but globally. TJC has done such a great job with sending players to the next level that they have many connections throughout the world. Like the soccer team for instance; Head Coach Steven Clements has several international student-athletes on his team because of the many athletes that have come through his program in the past. Many of them went on to the next level and eventually made their way to a professional league. Whether it be here in the U.S. or overseas, they are able to give their testimony to other players around them and are able to point them in the direction they need to go, which ends up being TJC, a lot of the time.

But TJC isn't just used to revive a player's athletic career, it could also be used as a start to someone's career. Just ask

NBA All-Star Jimmy Butler. Butler was once homeless on the streets and ended up attending TJC. Butler was given a chance to prove himself on the basketball court, which he didn't take for granted. Eventually, Butler made his way to the NBA, then to the starting lineup, then to Olympic gold and then eventually earning a spot on the All-Star team.

Apache Athletics has helped many players in this same way. Of course many don't see the same success that Butler did, but nonetheless, TJC still has the coaches and training staff to enhance these players. Not to mention the other players that TJC brings in to provide competition for starting jobs at multiple positions which helps ignite motivation in other players to play even better.

Some might argue that players should come here for the sport and not just for the betterment of themselves. But why? After all, TJC is just a two-year school and although two years could be enough time to get attached to the program, an athlete needs to focus on the big picture. College athletes don't get paid for this stuff, which is a whole other argument, so they need

**Column**



**Benjamin Savallo**  
Sports Editor

to look out for themselves because no one else is going to.

Many of these athletes are coming from out of town, state or country -- they don't have the support of their families everywhere they go. They're on their own most of the time. So they may have to look at TJC as just a stepping stone to the next goal in their lives. If they collect a couple of wins or a national championship along the way, then that's grand.

## Second scrimmage of season continues spring success

Isaiah Thornton  
Staff Writer

The TJC football team held their second spring scrimmage of the year.

About 200 fans were in attendance to see what this young team was made of as the Apaches bring in a new set of coaches: Thomas Rocco as the Defensive Coordinator and Matt Gordon as the Offensive Coordinator.

The offense started off slower than expected as Coach Gordon wants the football snapped every 17 seconds after the play is over.

"That's going to be the big thing. One, just grinding out the clock. And two, just go as fast as humanly possible and keep the defense on their heels," said Gordon.

The Apaches brought in a new Starting Quarterback Carter McCown at the helm of the offense.

"Carter McCown was outstanding tonight," said Gordon. "I gave him the reigns of calling some of the offense plays

**"And anytime you can have player as a coach on the field, it brings more success to the team."**

-Matt Gordon  
Offensive Coordinator

and he did a great job. He knows the offense thick and thin. And anytime you can have player as a coach on the field, it brings more success to the team."

So far this spring, the running backs have had a tough time getting anything going, it seemed like they were getting at most three yards a carry. But they did show some flashes here and there.

"We got to be able to run the football effectively and be aggressive the running backs need to work on their pass protection. I didn't think they ran the ball as effectively



Photo by Isaiah Thornton

**CRACKING HEADS** The two TJC teams clash head to head, helmet to helmet on the line and out wide during the second spring scrimmage before the fall season on Friday, March 31, 2017.

as they have been this spring," said Coach Gordon. "We have a couple guys banged up in that position but will get through it but we got to do a better job of running the football," said Coach Gordon.

On the defensive side of the ball, the Apaches look similar, in some regard to last year's team. They have a very talented defensive line, on almost every play the D-line was causing trouble for the offense. Coach Rocco will be bringing back seven starters on this defense. Right now, their running a nickel defensive scheme to get players accustomed to the new system.

The defensive backs for TJC have some stand-out players such as KJ Turner

and Brandon Johnson in the secondary.

"We need to play the deep ball better, but I thought we played really good against the run, for the most part. I would have to watch the film to tell you other areas to improve this week but we're at a good starting point," said Coach Rocco.

Coach Rocco had a few players he liked showing something they can build off of for next week.

"I thought Devontay Wheatley, Bryce Hines And DaQuaylyn Thomas all looked pretty good tonight," says Coach Rocco.

The spring games are every Friday evening until April 13, which will be the last game of the semester.



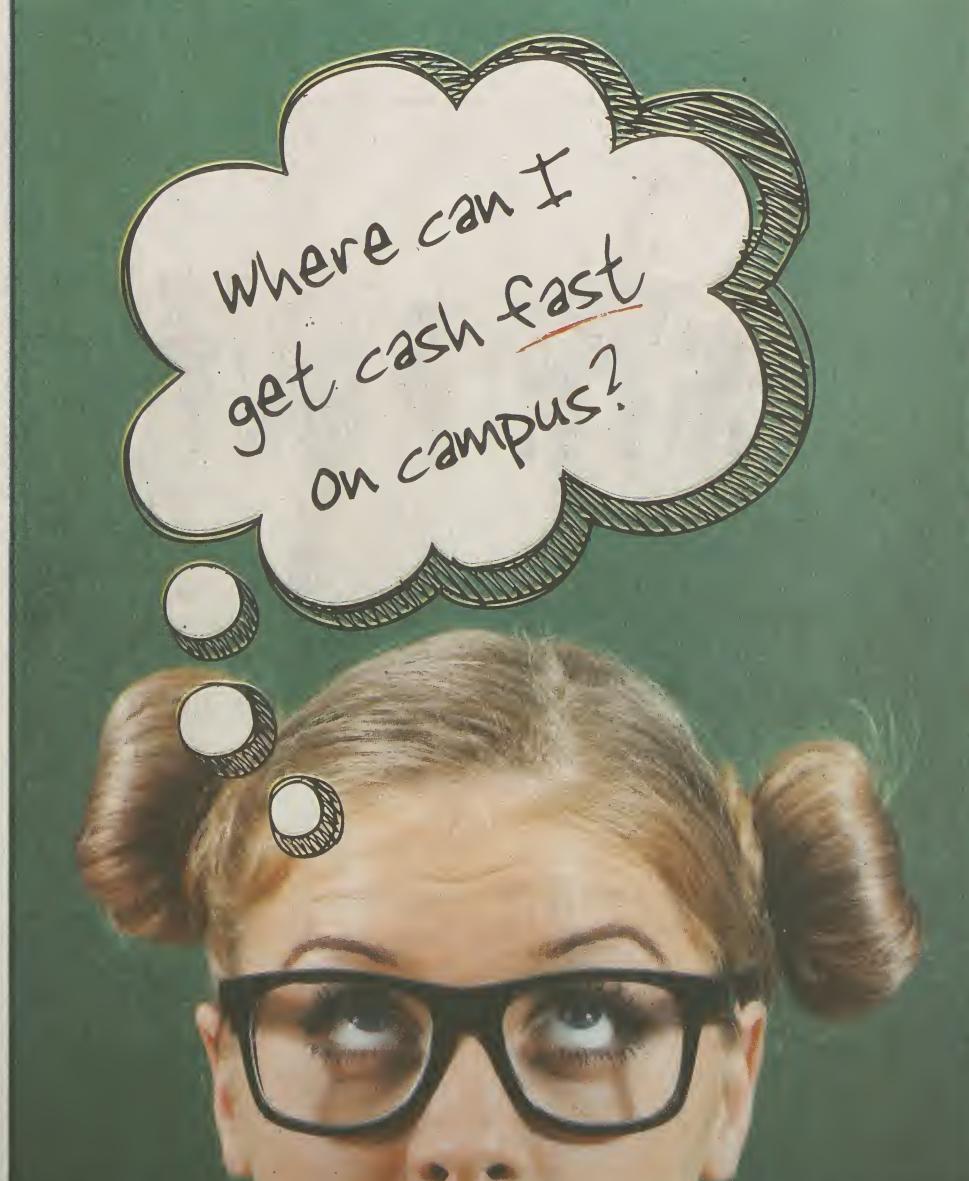
Photo by Isaiah Thornton

**THE HUDDLE** Head Football Coach Danny Palmer goes over the positives and negatives after the second scrimmage of the spring season on Friday, March 31, 2017 with both of the teams on the sideline of the Pat Hartley Field Complex.



Photo by Isaiah Thornton

**OFF BALANCE** Sophomore Quarterback Carter McCown releases a pass off his backfoot while receiving pressure from the defense in the second scrimmage of the spring on March 31, 2017.



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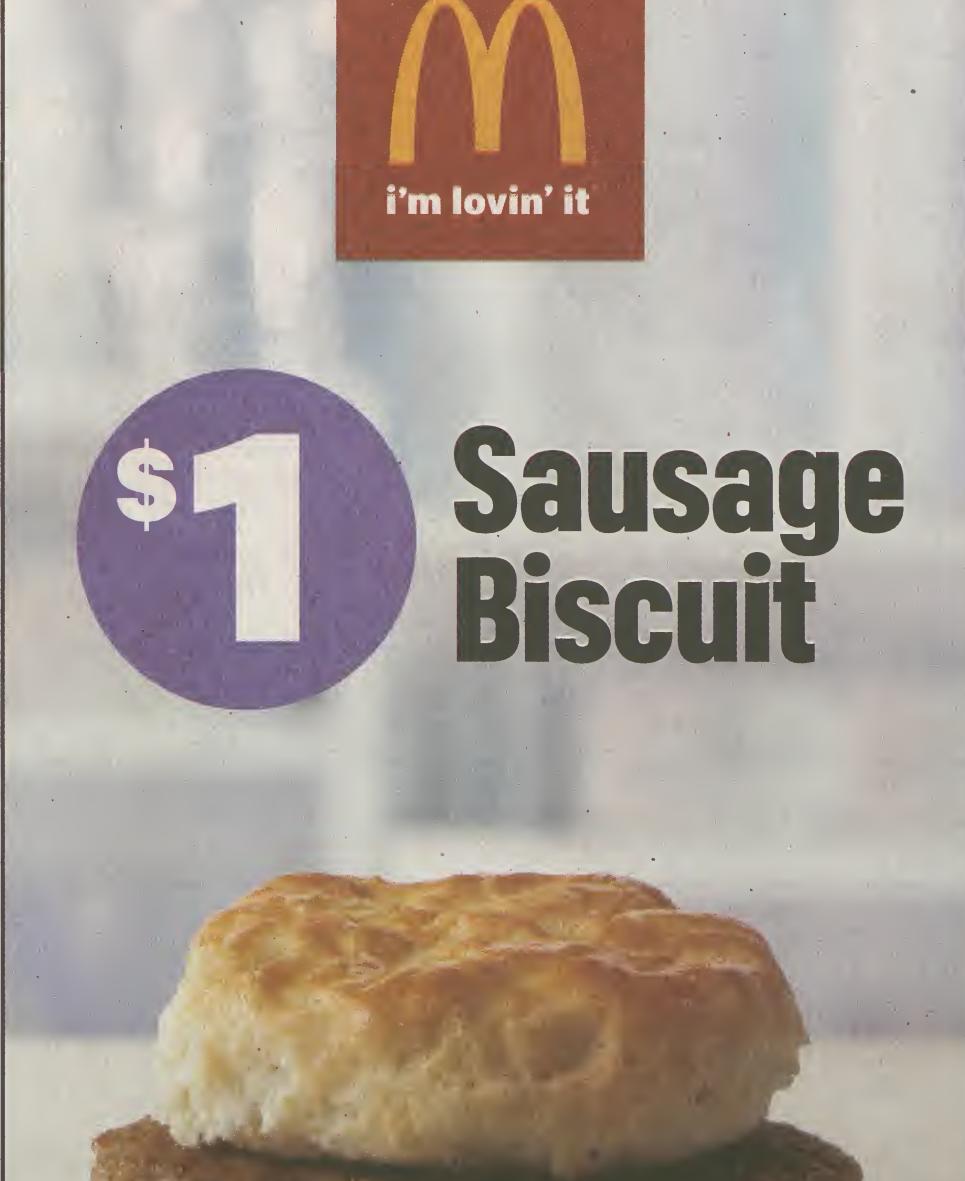
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## The 'Love Train' pulls into the Wise Auditorium

### Sophomores take their final bows in their Apache Belle uniforms



Photo by Brianna Harmon

**START A LOVE TRAIN** Apache Belles performed their Spring Show in the Wise Auditorium March 21- April 1. The Belles will have tryouts on April 22-23 and again on June 24-25. Registration for tryouts is \$30 in advance and \$40 at the door.

**Brianna Harmon**  
Arts Editor

The head dance captain broke down in tears during the Apache Belles Spring Show on April 1 as she danced around in tribute to her mother who passed away unexpectedly 7 months ago.

As the lights dimmed at the end of the solo, Director of the Apache Belles Jaslyn Schaefer and choreographer Christy Evans walked on stage to give Jones a bouquet of roses.

Athletic trainer Melanie Kornhauser who also played Barry Manilow in the Copacabana stated that Jones's solo was a heart felt performance and it was her favorite number performed all night.

"My favorite number in the show was definitely Meg's solo," Kornhauser said. "Her performance really spoke to the audience in a way that hit home for her. I know I had to have been extremely hard for her to perform and not only that but to do it 3 days in a row. She was truly inspiring to use her own tragedy and life experience as something made out to be so beautiful."

Jones solo was a dance to the song Incomplete by James Bay.

"My mom growing up was always the mom and the dad figure in my life," Jones said. "She was my best friend."

Jones's mother was also an Apache Belle when she attended TJC.

"I told them a little bit after everything happened that there was never a time for bad things to happen," Jones said. "I couldn't have picked a better support system to back me up and be my backbone when I need it and to understand when I wasn't all there. They knew when my heart was heavy and I was hurting, it has been amazing."

Jones plans to try out for the Stephen F. Austin dance team in May and transfer there to continue her education in dance.

"I hope to further young

children's passion in dance and reach their goals in dancing," Jones said. "Being in dance doesn't only teach you dance but it teaches you how to be a better person and how to serve other people."

Sophomore Abi Williams also plans to tryout for the SFA dance team after she leaves TJC. Williams was the recipient of the Mary Payne Lowe Apache Belle Endowed Scholarship.

The scholarship is chosen by Schaefer, the recipient stands for someone who exhibits outstanding character, integrity, grace and compassion for others.

"I am beyond thankful," Williams said. "I never expected to receive it. If it wasn't for that I would be struggling to pay for school."

Williams also runs all the social media for the Belles.

"This has been the best two years of my life," Williams said. "Thinking about being in school here makes me not even remember high school because I feel like this is where my life started."

This year the Apache Belles Spring Show's theme was 'Love Train' after the 1971 show 'Soul Train'. The performance is fast paced and goes through all the different emotions of love and there will be no break in between the 23 numbers.

"The interesting part of this show is that it doesn't have a master of ceremonies," Schaefer said. "It does not have a script that ties it all together. So these ladies literally carry the show."

Schaefer says that she is impressed with how they performed. The Belles prepared for the show since August. The performance will include songs from multiple different decades.

"The one thing that we look for in every Apache Belle is a versatile dancer, you have to be very multitalented," Schaefer said. "They have really been able to rise to the

— see BELLES page 7 —



Courtesy Photo

**WOLFGANG AMADEUS** Art major and alumus, Lenora Hill's painting "Mozart" is one of many pieces to be featured in the upcoming Bell Tower release.

## Bell Tower wins multiple awards at Texas Intercollegiate Press Association

**Brianna Harmon**  
Arts Editor

In spring of 2007, Dr. Linda Gary orchestrated the first printing of the Bell Tower arts journal. Since then, the literary magazine has become a popular, award-winning publication.

"I was struck that they didn't really have a journal to highlight student work [when I came to TJC in 2005]," said Gary. "It was a hit [when the first one was published]. It's a collaboration among three departments, Art, English and Graphic Arts."

The Bell Tower showcases student poems, drawings and photos. No faculty or staff work is featured in the journal.

"It is entirely student generated," said Gary. "Students design the cover, students design the layout, and they are a part of the select process. It is only student work in between the covers. We really wanted this to be about the students and celebrating them."

The Bell Tower has won multiple awards at the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.

On April 2, the Bell Tower won a 2nd place award for Overall Excellence, beating out Texas Women's University, North Lake, Eastfield, Sul Ross

and Northeast Texas Community College.

"We win awards every year," said Gary. "We have won overall excellence three times, which is like winning best picture at the Oscars. The literary magazine is an open division, meaning we are up against universities. [The student] work is so outstanding."

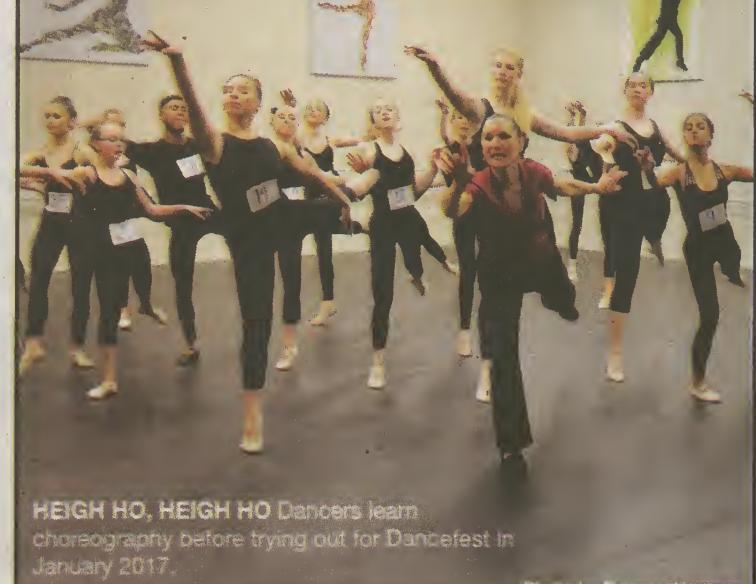
Gary always wanted a festival that would coincide with the release of the Bell Tower Arts Journal.

"The timing was never right, maybe next year," said Gary. "But three years ago, we said 'Yeah, let's do this,' so we looked at the calendar and April was a good month. It's spring, it's pretty out and everybody is anxious to do things but we noticed there were already a lot of things on the calendar."

The festival started out as a nine-day event, but expanded to a month-long event last year.

"It's really become this wonderful collaboration and celebration of what we do," said Gary. "The Art Festival is really TJC's gift to the whole East Texas community. Come on out and see great art, listen to terrific guest speakers we have invited and pick up a copy of the Bell Tower while you are at it."

The Bell Tower will have a release party on at 2 p.m. April 17 in Pirtle 127.



**HEIGH HO, HEIGH HO** Dancers learn choreography before trying out for Dancefest in January 2017.

Photo by Brianna Harmon

## Academy of Dance set to perform Snow White

**Brianna Harmon**  
Arts Editor

The TJC Academy of Dance will be performing their rendition of Disney's Snow White and the Seven Dwarves for Dancefest this year.

Shurrell Wiebe will be directing the performance as well as choreographing it with the help of Thereza Bryce-Cotes and Carolyn Hanna.

Dancefest is the dance department's spring show. Academy members of all ages will have their talents showcased.

"This is our second largest production, performed after The Nutcracker," Hanna said. "Our dancers performing in this show are able to showcase the diverse technical skills and artistry by performing in genres such as ballet, modern and jazz."

The Nutcracker is done annually and was performed for the 28th time last semester.

"The Nutcracker is primarily a ballet production, so it's nice to show

our modern side to the community and illustrate how versatile our dancers at TJC are," Hanna said. "We are focusing on the darker side of what this story portrays, exploring more in depth with both the movement and story line to include the evil witch, the man in the mirror and the relationship between all the characters."

16-year-old dual credit student Brooke Rhodus will play Snow White in the performances.

During auditions, Rhodus tried out for every role in the play but was surprised when she was as Snow White.

"It has been very fun [preparing for show] but a lot of hard work and long hours," Rhodus said. "I was surprised, I had no idea I would get this role. But I am really excited about it."

The dancers have been preparing for the show since January.

"As a department, it's always rewarding to work together for one

— see DANCE page 7 —

## THEATRE

*continued from page 1*

considered a prequel to the original story by J. M. Barrie.

"It's a really pure story of a little orphan boy who doesn't want to grow up; he doesn't want to be a grown up. He's been hurt by grown ups his whole life," said Delk on his character. "He was abandoned by his parents, the only adult who's ever taken care of him beat him violently and he has to learn to make the best out of his situation by trying to find home."

Play Director Rebecca Faulds-Howard is guiding students through this magical universe through the many practices the cast has each week.

"It just caught my imagination; it's just pure storytelling theatre and it's just pure fun," said Faulds-Howard. "It's using minimal props, minimal set to create this wonderful story and tell this different interpretation of how Peter became the Pan, and stardust, and how everything was created, how Neverland came to be [and] how Tinkerbell was created. So, it's a creation story, of how the story came about."

One of the 'new' faces, not seen in the original piece is the Starcatcher Lord Leonard Aster, who will be brought to life by Freshman Bryce Neel.

"Lord Leonard Aster is a victorian gentleman from the late 18 hundreds in England. He is a loyal subject to the queen, and a devoted father his daughter Molly, because her mother passed away when she was only six years old," said Neel. "I am also a Starcatcher, who are people who duel on earth and protect the world from the powerful starstuff, which is basically

compared to the pixie dust in the Peter Pan movies.

"Starstuff" is the term used to describe the pieces of stars that fall from the heavens and contain powerful magical properties, which are protected by the Starcatchers. It plays a huge part on the show, since it is the reason for Peter's everlasting youth and all the magic present in Neverland.

"At the end, Peter falls into a huge lake of pure starstuff, and it changes him, and he doesn't recognize that it changes him, but it makes him be a boy forever," said Delk.

Neel defines Starcatchers as 'people who protect the world from starstuff getting in the wrong hands' referring to the antagonist of the story, the malicious pirate Black Stache, played by freshman Ethan Beam.

"He's the saltiest dog on the sea," said Beam about his character. "He's a bit of a pirate, you might say; the best pirate, I would say. He's a mean man and he will do whatever he can to get what he wants, be it take over a ship or kill a little boy."

The name Black Stache might not sound familiar for those who know Peter Pan's story, but since this is a creation story, the pirate also becomes one of the most famous characters of all times.

"Through character development and through the story, he becomes Captain James Hook," said Beam.

Peter and the Starcatcher will be on stage at Jean Brown Theatre Apr. 26-30 at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday bringing a close to the 2016-2017 theatre season.



Photo by Bárbara Arroio

**INTENSE** Freshmen Jacob Taylor (left) and Ethan Beam (right) practice their portrayal of a battle with broomsticks on stage during practice for the Peter and the Starcatcher play on Apr. 26-30, 2017.

## DANCE

*continued from page 6*

common show," Hanna said. "This production will be quite unique and exciting to watch for the students at TJC and the East Texas community."

The TJC Arts Festival is a month long collaboration of all of the art departments on campus.

"TJC Arts Festival is a really special opportunity for students, faculty and the community to see all of the incredible artistic genres and performances we have to

offer," Hanna said. "I love that we all can come together for one month and present important and exciting artist works that are supported by the college. The arts are so important to cultivate and champion, so make sure to get out and see what TJC presents this month."

Dancefest will take place during the heart of the Arts Festival on April 21 at 7 p.m., April 22 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. and on April 23 at 2 p.m.

## BELLES

*continued from page 6*

occasion because it has been really demanding physically and the stress of memorizing. They have blown us away with their capabilities."

To be an Apache Belle you are not only a full time student but you also are an active member in the community

"When I say Spring Show is

time," Schaefer said. "It's always bitter sweet because you don't want your time here at TJC to end."

Schaefer was an Apache Belle when she attended TJC as well as Evans who was the head captain.

"It is the greatest honor, I get to say I have my dream job," Schaefer said. "This is what we are passionate

**"This has been the best two years of my life. Thinking about being in school here makes me not even remember high school because I feel like this is where my life started"**

-Abi Williams  
Sophomore Apache Belle

about. We believe in this program we believe in the impact it has these two years has on the lives of the ladies that go through this program."

The final number that is performed in the Spring Show is dedicated to the sophomores. They are announced one by one and they take their final bow in their Belle's uniform.

"It is a time for those sophomores who have been with the program for two years to have their individual names said out loud and they get to take their final bow as an Apache Belle in the uniform with the pride of TJC in their hearts and finish up their time here," Schaefer said. "To watch them come in the doors as freshman at camp who doesn't know what they are getting into and to see how much they change when they take their final bow as sophomores is amazing."



Photo by Brianna Harmon  
**CHATTANOOGA CHOO-CHOO** Apache Belles, Marissa Rosales, Maddie Duvall and Cheyenne Sikes dance together Saturday, April 1.



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## Apaches sign contracts for next year's housing



Photo by Austin Hall

**ENJOYING LIFE ON CAMPUS** Housing residents gather together outside Crossroads Hall after school to shoot the breeze and unwind Monday, April 3, 2017.

## Students make the decision of whether or not to live on campus

**Austin Hall**  
Student Life Editor

Student housing is in high demand, and with beds filling up fast students are rushing to secure a room on campus.

During the week of March 27-31, housing services contracted students for the next academic year. As of Mar. 28, the residence halls have 1,200 beds. Out of those, 480 are already reserved. 625 applications are complete and 759 others applications are in the process of being completed.

That being said, it is important to slow down and take everything into consideration before making the commitment to living in one of the residence halls.

Campus residents are subject to GPA requirements, health and safety checks and visitor restrictions. When signing the housing contract, students bind themselves to these

regulations, and breaking the contract can have severe repercussions.

"If Student is suspended or dismissed from a Residence Hall or TJC, or this Contract is cancelled by TJC in accordance with the terms set forth herein, Student must pay all charges accrued and/or required under this Contract and has no right to a refund of any room and board payment," states the housing contract.

That basically means if a student gets kicked out of the residence hall, they still have to pay for their room. If a student reads the contract and feels they can't live up to its requirements, they may want to consider living off campus.

It is imperative that students are informed about what they are agreeing to. Only two of the five students surveyed had read the contract before signing it.

"I had acted like I read it," said resident Cornelius Fiots.

The ones who did read it admitted that they did not remember what was in it.

"When they sign a housing contract, they are signing a legal document... we encourage them to read all of it and understand it and ask questions," said Diana Karol, director of housing.

Some of the standards for living on campus may not fit a student's particular lifestyle. For that reason, students like Ashley Smith are considering moving off campus.

"I don't got no stove so if I wanted to like cook food I can't even do that. And I don't really like sharing bathrooms with other people," said Smith.

Of course, some may see the requirements as a small price to pay compared to taking on the responsibility of living off campus. When living in the residence halls, students are relieved of the responsibilities of utilities, internet, finding roommates, grocery shopping

and transportation.

For someone that has never had the experience of living away from home, living on campus can be a stepping stone to independence.

We all consider ourselves the transition phase between living at home and being independent... That is part of our purpose here," said Karol.

There are other benefits to living on campus. Many students enjoy the close-knit community campus living provides.

"It's really nice to live with all the other honors students because we share similar interests," said Ornelas resident Karina Mody.

If a student decides living on campus is the best fit for them they need to be sure they are willing to abide by the contract and are able to afford rental payments. To prepare for the transition from living at home to living on campus, information can be found at [www.tjc.edu/residencelife](http://www.tjc.edu/residencelife).

## TJC Alumnus named first 'Legend of TJC'

**Barbara Arrojo**  
Web Editor

Through the years, TJC has educated many people who have ended up becoming well-known or influential. These remarkable alumni are honored by the new "Legends of TJC" series.

"Since I got here, I've met so many incredible people whose lives were changed forever, and we started running the Heroes & Friends series," said TJC's President Dr. Mike Metke. "[Legends of TJC] really came from that. People would tell me that they came to TJC and found out who they were and what they could become, met friends for life, many of them met their spouses, and then they kind of came back and [now] run Tyler and East Texas."

To open the series, Admiral Bobby

R. Inman was invited to return to TJC and attend several events on campus, including a dedication ceremony in Jenkins Hall, visiting TJC honors students and a noteworthy lecture at Wise Auditorium.

Originally from Rhonesboro, Admiral Inman would ride the bus from Mineola to attend classes at Tyler Junior College. During his time here, at the young age of 16, Inman was inducted into the Alpha Omicron Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa on April 19, 1947 and was nominated its International Distinguished Alumnus at the National Convention in 1984. Admiral Inman expressed much joy to be back where he first started.

"What's amazing [is] when I was

— see LEGENDS page 10 —

## Student Life brings in several gallons of blood donations

**Rebecca Najera**  
Editor-in-Chief

The Center for Student Life and Involvement hosted their 6th annual 50 Gallon Challenge blood drive, and the results are not disappointing.

"Word's getting out," said Director of Student Life, Lauren Tyler. "People are starting to know what the event is."

Carter BloodCare partnered with The Center for Student Life and collected 437 units between March 27 and 31, amounting to 54.6 gallons for the event. This continues the streak of obtaining the 50-gallon goal.

"This year, we did try some totally different things," said Tyler. "We did some different mobile locations around campus to try and cater [to students]. We want it to be the most convenient for everyone."

Tyler feels that since the campus continues to grow, having different locations for students to donate is ideal.

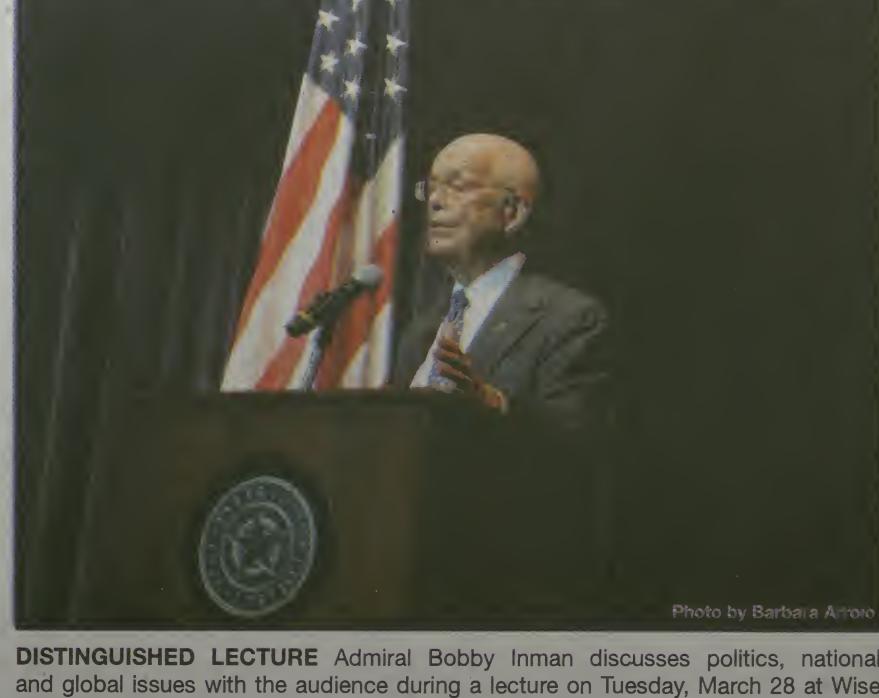
"We spent two days over in the nursing and health sciences center," said Tyler. "Monday was really slow over there, but Tuesday was great."

In the past, the blood drive has taken place in the Apache Rooms throughout the week of the event, but by spending time in the nursing building and having other mobile locations set up around campus, Tyler feels that reaching the 50-gallon goal was easier to achieve.

"We did Fifth St. on Thursday and Friday because we wanted to reach out to the community and make it accessible to them," said Tyler. "Sometimes trying to find the building on campus we thought might be hard."

To make it even easier on community members wanting to donate, parking spaces were reserved near the mobile location. This was an effort to save people from frustration when trying to find a place to park who might have otherwise ended up not donating.

— see BLOOD page 9 —



**DISTINGUISHED LECTURE** Admiral Bobby Inman discusses politics, national and global issues with the audience during a lecture on Tuesday, March 28 at Wise Auditorium.



**SAVING LIVES** Sophomore Katie Hodges and SFA student Lesha Chelette have their blood taken by phlebotomist Cedric Cash in the Apache Rooms Tuesday, March 28.

**PTK***continued from page 2*

I like to believe my story with Phi Theta Kappa is unique considering I am an engineering major. As an aspiring engineer, I always look for the "best bang for my buck," so to speak. Phi Theta Kappa is, by all means, the best buy, but it seems that the mighty STEM power train is underrepresented in the ranks of our society, especially in the way of engineers. This is probably because the science nerds and math geeks think they lack the time because they're so busy doing calculus. Curse you, Isaac Newton, and your very existence! Well, I have news for all the STEM majors out there. Whether someone is in Organic Chemistry II, Engineering Circuits or anything in between, there is a place for every individual in Phi Theta Kappa, and it's right out on the front lines helping the community and setting themselves apart from their future competition. Trust me,

blood and bone marrow donations, ultimately helping to save the lives of people diagnosed with various types of blood cancers. These are just two examples of numerous ones from this semester alone where the Alpha Omicron chapter of Phi Theta Kappa rose to the occasion and made a lasting difference to others.

The experience doesn't just stop here at home. In March, a group of students from our chapter commuted to Corpus Christi, TX where the Phi Theta Kappa Texas Regional Convention was held. I had never been to a convention for Phi Theta Kappa or any other convention for that matter, so when I walked into a large auditorium filled with 500 people I was slightly startled. Even after the local chapter had validated itself to me, I still never would've thought the span of Phi Theta Kappa would encapsulate the huge state of Texas. It

**"There are a lot of things in life that require more than a book to learn, and Phi Theta Kappa helps to bridge that gap...."**

-Aaron Dees  
Phi Theta Kappa

people will notice the work you do.

Universities pick up on the importance of Phi Theta Kappans. This semester, members of our society were given an open door to pursue thousands of dollars in scholarship money and admissions fee waivers to their dream colleges. I currently hold the chair of Co-Vice President of Scholarship in our honor society; a somewhat pretentious-sounding position that required me to reach out to university recruiters to request their attendance at our Tuesday night general meetings. The job pretty much did itself. All the phone calls and emails resulted in nearly a dozen universities from all across the nation practically begging to show up and speak to our chapter members. Some of them even went as far as to donate money to our society just to be given a chance to recruit us.

But what's the big craze for Phi Theta Kappa? Why do the university recruiters care so much that they would throw thousands of dollars at members of this honor society? The answer is found in leadership and community service. Prime examples of ways Phi Theta Kappans helped exercise their good character this semester was through integrated services in other organizations such as Smile Train and Be the Match. In raising money for the Smile Train Foundation, Phi Theta Kappa and their matching donor helped raise enough money to provide 20 facial reconstructive surgeries for children suffering from birth defects such as cleft lip and cleft palate. Furthermore, to complement the TJC blood drive and 50 Gallon Challenge Phi Theta Kappa teamed up with the Be the Match Foundation to get donors signed up for a national registry for

didn't take me long to warm up to the upbeat, nerdy atmosphere and start meeting people from all across the state. It gets better. Our chapter is traveling to Nashville, TN this month to represent Tyler Junior College at the Phi Theta Kappa International Convention. Aside from staying in the beautiful Gaylord Opryland Hotel, chapter members will have the chance to connect with Phi Theta Kappans from all across the United States, and even places like Germany and the United Arab Emirates. Phi Theta Kappa truly is the world's largest honor society for two-year colleges.

My involvement with Phi Theta Kappa has taught me that it's not good to be the microbiology major with a 4.0 GPA that has nothing to put on their résumé other than "I survived college." The fact that someone achieved such a remarkable feat of intellectual prowess by breezing their way through engineering or medical school doesn't tell the interview board for their future job or scholarship whether they're a maniacal threat to humanity or not. People need to see well-roundedness and good demonstrations of character. If someone was given a stack of books on how to drive a stick shift, they could memorize every word, but they're still going to be incapable of driving a stick shift without practical experience and exposure to the real world scenario. There are a lot of things in life that require more than a book to learn, and Phi Theta Kappa helps to bridge that gap by not only by providing ridiculously large scholarship opportunities but by giving its members a way to display their outstanding characters and skill sets, all while helping society both on and off campus.

**WIENERLAND***continued from page 1*

"We think we have a chili recipe that is almost exact. We know that is a big question for a lot of people when a restaurant changes owners. We wanted to do this right and make people proud," said Mrs. Harrison.

A big concern the new owners have seen and heard from fans of the iconic restaurant was the menu. Former customers have voiced their concern over possible menu changes.

"Again, this is an iconic place and yes, there are family favorites and we will be keeping some of those favorites. We truly feel we have the recipe, it is very, very close and I don't think people will be disappointed at all," said Mrs. Harrison. "We are going to modernize it a little bit and offer some hot dog choices that you can have. We are kind of bringing it all up to the 2000s."

Gourmet hot dog choices will be the biggest additions Harrison added. Different types of meat will also be added to the new menu, as well as different types of bread. The original favorites will be returning like the chili dog and the plain dog.

"We will have chili cheese fries, Frito chili pies and nachos but different takes on all of that. It will be really cool and very

**"We truly feel we have the recipe, it is very, very close and I don't think people will be disappointed at all."**

-Lindsey Harrison  
New Wienerland Co-Owner

exciting for students to be able to walk over and grab some food to go," said Mrs. Harrison.

Wienerland is scheduled to open at the beginning of May, just in time for students to taste the new, modern take on a classic before finals and the end of the semester. For more updates, follow Wienerland on Facebook. There, they will announce a finalized date and will be offering discounts to TJC students.

**CADETS***continued from page 1*

Rodseth originally went to school in Idaho, but had to put her Master's studies on

**"I feel very blessed to be in this academy."**

-Abby Rodseth  
26th Peace Officer Class Valedictorian

hold to attend the academy. Her husband's work brought them to Tyler, so she decided to join the police force.

"We've put our roots down here, so I gotta start focusing on my career and goals that I started in college," said Rodseth.

With the highest GPA in the academy, Rodseth set a historic milestone for cadets, both past and future.

**BLOOD***continued from page 8*

Like previous blood drives, there were t-shirts and prizes given away throughout the week, majority being provided by community businesses.

"We're thankful for all the local businesses that give to this," said Tyler. "That's how we're able to give out some of the [prizes]. Carter BloodCare provides a lot of those. We don't spend our money in donations or purchasing those things, which is really important for some people to know."

The Center for Student Life doesn't pay for any of the prizes aside from the t-shirts

"I feel very blessed to be in this academy," said Rodseth. "I've had great instructors, and great classmates. We had a very competitive class."

All 20 cadets also impressed instructors by passing the State Licensing Exam on the first attempt. The 19-week course is purposefully constructed to be challenging, both physically and academically.

"We have one of the top rated academies in the state," said Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Tom Johnson. "In fact, we're rated clearly outstanding, which is big."

The course includes extensive training on firearm skills, driving, understanding of state laws and much more. For questions about the program, Tom Johnson can be contacted at [tjoh@tjc.edu](mailto:tjoh@tjc.edu), and Lt. Hayter at [hhay@tjc.edu](mailto:hhay@tjc.edu).

given out to each donor for free.

"The Chuy's gift cards, the free smoothies and all those things are all donated by local businesses," said Tyler. "So as we continue to grow, it's really helpful that these business are continuing to support the event."

Since the 50-gallon goal has been reached every year since the event originated, Tyler hopes that students will continue to donate.

"It helps that we hit our goal every year," said Tyler. "It gives us a little bit more incentive for people to give since they know that statistically, we have always hit our goal."

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# Student/Employee Lanyard Policy:

1. Lanyards must be worn around the neck while on campus, and the ID card must be clearly visible at all times, unless it should be removed for safety reasons or an approved ADA variance.

2. Any lanyard is acceptable, but it must be similar in design and worn in the same manner as the official college lanyard. The color of the lanyard is not critical.

3. No one will be allowed into class without wearing his or her ID/lanyard.

4. Students who do not have their ID/Lanyards may pick up a Day Pass at the Campus Safety Office, Campus Safety Substation located at the Rogers Student Center or from a TJC Ambassador. The first Day Pass each semester is free of charge. For all subsequent Day Passes a \$5.00 cost recovery charge will be billed to the student's account.

5. Employees may obtain a Day ID/Lanyard from their respective Dean's or Director's office.

*East Texas Friendly!*

# Tyler Museum of Art opens 13th high school exhibition

Marshall Gearfoss  
Managing Editor

Showing off the next generation of artists, the Tyler Museum of Art opened the 13th Annual High School Art Exhibition.

"I've hung Warhol, I've hung Picasso, I've hung Lichtenstein, but this is different," said Derik Frazier, the education director for TMA. "It's just the pride in the community."

The exhibit opened on April 2 and shows off artistic works from high school students across East Texas. The exhibit will remain open for the duration of April.

"After we go through the awards processes and stuff, I like to go around and find the artists and tell them, 'you know, your work is hanging exactly where I hung an Andy Warhol last year,' or, 'it's hanging in the exact same spot as a Picasso piece,'" said Frazier.

All students who are exhibited at the show win a year's student membership at the museum. All of the works are judged by three anonymous judges who select four that stand out the most. Three of which are awarded the Merit of Honor while one is selected as Best of Show. There will also be a Viewer's Choice award. Museum visitors may vote once per day, and the winners will be named on May 2.

"We are getting things this year that are at the professional level," said Frazier.

This year, the Best of Show award was given to Robert E. Lee High School senior Erin Woods. Her piece was a small drawn illustration of tires on a porch, simply titled "Tired."

"We live out in the country with lots of stuff. Our property is really cluttered," said Woods. "There's been a development of me just hating it; and then kind of learning to appreciate the beauty of smaller portions of it, instead of trying to look at the big picture."

Her piece was constructed of mixed media, primarily with muted tones.

"I have a certain look in mind for each piece, and if I can't get that look with just one medium, I'll attack any others that might work," said Woods.

Woods' teacher, Melinda Tefteller, explained how proud she was that Erin's piece won Best of Show.

"I've taught her all four years, but this year, I've just kind

of watched her grow as an artist," said Tefteller. "It's benefitted her in so many ways, because it helps her think outside of the box."

Jack Hager, another Lee senior, won one of the three Merit of Honor awards. His brightly-colored piece depicts a memory he had while fishing, another hobby he's passionate about.

"I went on a fishing trip in Michigan, and I actually caught some of the fish in the picture," said Hager. "They're really interesting fish, and I just have a passion for marine sciences and marine biology, so it kind of all clicked."

Hager spent about two months designing his work. Using Prismacolor pencils for the award-winning piece, he noted how time-consuming that form of art is.

"The medium takes forever," said Hager.

TMA Education Coordinator Kelsey Sparkman curated the exhibition.

"It's like a portrait of our community," said Sparkman. "This is what is happening in our high schools right now. Especially for the people who aren't directly involved, it shows them that we have some really cool kids in this area, and they're doing some really cool stuff."

Although the three judges are anonymous, and their exact judging criteria is unknown, Sparkman noted some of the general guidelines they stuck to while deciding the most noteworthy art.

"They want to be able to tell that actual effort was put into the piece, they want original and creative," said Sparkman.

One of the museum's recent additions is the internship of Whitehouse high school student Sydney Garrison. She also had art displayed at the show, which colorfully recreated a photo she took during a trip to Austin, Texas.

"I wanted it to be more of like a feel of the city, instead of an exact, realistic picture of it," said Garrison. "It's supposed to be about the culture and movement the city has. I wanted this to represent how the city feels to me."

Lisa McGehee, a Bishop T.K. Gorman Catholic School art instructor, mused on the importance of how this exhibition can influence the mindset of young artists.

"I think that the students don't realize how good they are. When you [exhibit] their work, they can really step back and see their work in a different way," said McGehee. "It's validating for them to realize that they're better than they thought they were."



**DON'T "TREAD" ON ME** (Above) Erin Woods' piece, named "Tired" which won Best of Show. (Below) Brandon Cantrell's Up & Coming (junior) artwork, named "Seeded Knowledge."

Photos by Marshall Gearfoss



## LEGENDS

*continued from page 8*

here we were located next to the high school, they were building Jenkins Hall in my last year and it was not open until after I had left," said Admiral Inman. "When I came back in '84, there was a substantial amount of buildings, but it's phenomenal what has occurred since '84."

After graduating from TJC in 1948, he went to the University of Texas at Austin, where he graduated in 1950, then joined the U.S. Navy. In 1972, he attended the National War College, was appointed by President Gerald R. Ford as the youngest three-star

admiral in history to be vice director of the Defense Intelligence Agency, and was later named by President Jimmy Carter as director of the National Security Agency (NSA).

"If you look at his resume... Almost all of the major events [of] national history and politics, he's been there, even international. I don't know if we had any graduate go as far as he has," said Dr. Metke. "So, he's been the youngest Admiral, [worked with] CIA, NSA, worked for four presidents. I don't know that there's really anybody who traveled further. The expression 'nothing so close can take you

far', well, true. For him, TJC has taken him across the world.

Before retiring, his final assignment as an officer of the Navy was given by President Ronald Reagan, who named him deputy director of Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and also received his fourth star. He retired from the navy in 1982 and started his civilian occupation.

Currently a professor at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs and holding the Lyndon B. Johnson centennial chair in National Policy at UT Austin, Admiral

Inman pointed out the role TJC played in his impeccable career.

"I felt, when I got to the University of Texas [at] Austin, that I could compete on common ground with my peers who had gone to UT for their first two years," said Admiral Inman. "I came out of TJC well-prepared to compete in a four-year institution."

According to Dr. Metke, more of the Legends of TJC may soon return, such as NBA player Jimmy Butler, Grammy-winning singer/songwriter Chris Tomlin and Oscar-winning lyricist Will Jennings.

## Power Rangers

### Movie Review

Rebecca Najera

Editor-in-Chief

I've low-key been excited for this movie since I heard about the reboot, however, I didn't really express it until the release date got closer. While there were a few things that bugged me, I definitely enjoyed seeing the Power Rangers back in action.

As a kid, I never really got into any other version of the Power Rangers except for the original Mighty Morphin Power Rangers. Even though the show was around before I was born (it was first released in August of 1993!), I still grew up watching it thanks to my older brother and sister.

While watching this movie, you may think that it's super cheesy, some of the action scenes are a little over the top or the actors are trying just a bit too hard; but that's how the Power Rangers are supposed to be. It wouldn't be a Power Rangers movie without some over dramatic spins and flips in the air, followed by a "Hyah!" or an "Oh, yeah!" Also, during some of the action scenes, some Kanye is being played in the background. Would it really be a Power Rangers movie without someone egotistical singing while the rangers themselves show off their egos? It's fitting.

Some of the things that bothered me though was that at times, the scenes felt a little rushed, or that the film editors just got a little lazy in some parts. Maybe it's just because I'm taking a film editing class and I'm looking for things like that when I watch movies now, but either way, it was a little frustrating. Like, how are we supposed to believe these kids can protect the universe when you can't even edit their footage to make some of their scenes believable? It wasn't anything major. Just a few jump cuts here and there,

but it was still annoying.

Also, Rita is kind of hot; at least later into the movie anyway. For those of you that don't know who she is, she's the antagonist in this film, and one of the iconic ones from the TV series. In the original Power Rangers, she was much more repulsive. After all, her name is Rita Repulsa.

Another character that was kinda revamped was Alpha 5. For those of you that don't know who he is, he's a talking robot that kind of acts as Zordon's (who is kind of the boss/mentor for the rangers) sidekick. From what I remember in the show, Alpha was kind of this nervous wreck, always flipping out and saying "Aye yai yai!" when things got hectic. But on top of receiving a new look in this movie, he's a bit sassy and more confident in himself. I'm not really sure if I see this as a bad thing, or if I'm just so used to the original that the new one just bothers me.

But on a positive note, for those *Breaking Bad* fans out there, Bryan Cranston (AKA Walter White) plays Zordon, and it's totally fitting. When he's talking to the rangers, I sometimes feel like I'm watching Walter talk to Jesse (when he's not being a jerk to Jesse, that is).

But what really made me happy while watching this is how diverse the group of rangers are. Yes, they're different as far as ethnicity and personality, but the movie includes people that are on the autism spectrum and that are LGBTQ. It just goes to show the younger audience, or actually, just the audience in general, that anyone can be a hero. Anyone.

For those of you that loved watching Power Rangers growing up, this is definitely worth a watch. It's not the original, but from the cheesiness to the music, it's still Power Rangers, nonetheless.

Move to the head of the class.

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**TJC**

# events

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p.11

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Monday, April 10

- *TJC Art Competition* - Jenkins Hall, art wing All day
- *Faculty Art Exhibit* - Vaughn Library All day
- *Softball Game* - The Brook Hill School, Bullard, TX - 12 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 11

- *TJC Art Competition* - Jenkins Hall, art wing All day
- *Faculty Art Exhibit* - Vaughn Library All day
- *Be a News Anchor* - Potter, P-203 2-4 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 12

- *TJC Art Competition* - Jenkins Hall, art wing All day
- *Faculty Art Exhibit* - Vaughn Library All day
- *Art Competition Reception* - Jenkins Hall, art lobby - 11:30 a.m.

- *Coffee House-Faculty Recital* - TMA Lobby 12 p.m.

- *Baseball Game (DH)* - Weatherford, TX 2 p.m.

- *Softball Game (DH)* - The Brook Hill School, Bullard, TX - 2 p.m.

- *Open Mic* - RSC, 2nd Floor 7 p.m.

### Thursday, April 13

- *TJC Art Competition* - Jenkins Hall, art wing All day

- *Faculty Art Exhibit* - Vaughn Library All day

### Friday, April 14

- *TJC Art Competition* - Jenkins Hall, art wing All day
- *Faculty Art Exhibit* - Vaughn Library All day
- *Men's Tennis District Tournament* - Plano, TX
- *Women's Tennis District Tournament* - Plano, TX

- *Baseball Game (DH)* - TCS-Post Grad Academy - 12 p.m.

- *Softball Game (DH)* - Kilgore, TX 1 p.m.

### Saturday, April 15

- *TJC Art Competition* - Jenkins Hall, art wing All day

- *Faculty Art Exhibit* - Vaughn Library All day

### Sunday, April 16

- *Faculty Art Exhibit* - Vaughn Library All day

### Monday, April 17

- *TJC Art Competition* - Jenkins Hall, art wing All day

- *Faculty Art Exhibit* - Vaughn Library All day

- *Softball Game (DH)* - Ranger, TX 1 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 18

- *International Day* - Apache Rooms All day

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### RESIDENT ARRESTED FOR DRUGS USE

Campus police detected the smell of marijuana coming from a vehicle in parking lot R-1. Two residents were inside, one was booked into jail for possession while the other was cited for possession of marijuana March 31.

### NEW CAMPUS LOCATION OPENS DOORS

TJC North celebrated its grand opening Wednesday, March 29 at the new Lindale location.

### WOMEN'S TENNIS LEADS THE NATION

Women's Tennis came in first in the latest NJCAA poll for the first time this season with a perfect 14-0 record.

### BASEBALL STAYS HOT AND STAYS ON TOP

No. 1 Apaches look to improve win streak to 16 after three-game series against LSU-Eunice April 8-9.

### TJC INVESTS IN FUTURE STUDENTS

Camden Brown and Grayson White were awarded with the "Apache of the Week" scholarship and the "Cheerleader of the Week" scholarship on April 1.

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# feature

p.12

April 7-20, 2017 • thedrumbeat.com

## Tyler entrepreneur gives back to community

Co-owner Caitlin Brax uses her fashion business to encourage local engagement

**Rob King**  
Staff Writer

Classic rock records rested on the backs of shelves and psychedelic art illuminated the wall spaces not occupied by clothes. The clothes themselves could have fallen out of a time machine from the '70s or a music video from the '80s, perhaps both. Jewelry and retro oddities lent their presence to every table surface.

On the approach to the property, which doubles as residence and business, peace signs and the words 'vintage clothes' graffiti-ed on the outer walls immediately tell visitors exactly what Alex & Afton is all about. No space within the shop is left empty, with every corner evoking the stylistic aesthetics of Andy Warhol and David Bowie.

The environment of calm hipster swagger that co-owner Caitlin Brax has cultivated is a far cry from the controlled chaos that will take hold once the Cool Collective 2nd Annual Pop-Up Party she has planned takes over the property, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, April 22.

"This is the biggest event that we do," said Brax.

It's a pop-up market that Brax is hosting at her business featuring mostly local vendors, makers and artists.

"I have a couple people coming in from Dallas and one person coming from Austin to come and sell items that they make or have collected, ya know, vintage, handmade," said Brax.

Caitlin herself walks with a Johnny Depp gaunt. Her clothing style punctuates a rock-star sensibility. She carries an inviting attitude that makes one feel comfortable and wanted. A certain quirkiness helps her blend in with the denims and hand-mades that her shop specializes in. She rocks her style fearlessly as she invites people to peruse her home of vintage wonders.

According to Brax, the purpose of the event is not only to bring the community and local entrepreneurs together, but also to give back.

"One hundred percent of their booth fee, which is pretty minimal, goes to the charity," said Brax of the charge to vendors planning to set up shop. "The charity this year is a dog charity. It is hospice dogs that have been abused or beaten or are in really critical health."

Proceeds will go to Rescue Without Borders, found on Instagram as @travelinggirlrescuesdogs. It is operated by one special needs dog rescuer, Adrienne Wyse, who tends to almost 40 dogs. Twelve of those dogs will be socializing at the event, but are not available for adoption due to their unique issues.

"She does everything she can to give their last few years or few weeks some love and some comfort," said Brax. "She's based out of Dallas."

Douglas Jay Boyd, a local entrepreneur in his own

right, is organizing the music line-up. Operating under his organization, Cast and Kettle, he has curated many shows in Tyler.

"When I know that he's in charge of something, [I] don't worry about it," said Brax. "Pretty much from the start 'till the finish there will be music."

One musical guest likely to draw attention is Chancie Peña, a former contestant on The Voice.

"He's got quite a following, so that's gonna be cool and help contribute to people that'll be here," said Brax.

Brax owns her storefront in partnership with her mother, Lori Cook. Since Nov. 1, 2013, they have painstakingly built Alex & Afton from the ground up. Brax moved to Texas from Los Angeles where she worked as a stylist in high-end clothing. After opening businesses in both Denton and Mineola, she finally settled in Tyler where she convinced her mother to partner with her.

"She kind of forced me, really," said Cook, laughing in her patio seat as the wind swept through her hair. "I consider it her business. I mean, I sew and I pick and I do that part, but she's the reason the business is successful."

Happy to sit back and take care of matters not involving selling, Cook maintains the day-to-day upkeep of the property. She also designs and hand-makes some of the clothes being sold in the store.

"I sew at home like three days a week and I come to the store and just kind of help out when I need to," said Cook. "I use vintage patterns and vintage fabric when I can find it."

According to several people who have worked with them, Brax and Cook foster a warmth that breeds familiarity. Brittany NeJame, a model and assistant at the shop, views them as family.

"When people come in here, even if it's their first time, they always end up staying longer than they intend to," said NeJame.

Another model who has worked closely with Brax is Shelby Mallard. Mallard is a Tyler Junior College student and an Apache Chief. She, too, is doing her part in promoting the festivities to come.

"I'm a brand ambassador right now, so we're just posting on social media, really getting the word out and then, [on] the day of the event, we'll go there and I think we'll be styled, have pictures taken, just kind of help out [and] have fun," said Mallard.

For more information on the event, search for the Cool Collective 2nd Annual Pop-Up Party public event on Facebook. This family-friendly event is free. For more information on Alex & Afton visit [www.facebook.com/AAVintedge](http://www.facebook.com/AAVintedge) or find it on Instagram: @aaavintedge. Alex & Afton is located on 5304 Old Bullard Rd. in Tyler, TX.



Photos by Rob King

**FASHION MEETS FORM** (Above) Caitlin Brax, surrounded by her store's stylish aesthetic, speaks on her pop-up market's plans. (Below) Founded on Nov. 1, 2013, the shop sits comfortably in the center of Tyler's growing urban complex.



## AWARDS

### NEWSPAPER: DIVISION 4

- 1st: General Column - Rebecca Najera
- 1st: In-Depth Reporting - Julia Contarelli
- 1st: News Story - Julia Contarelli
- 1st: Spanish News Writing - Alejandra Hurtado
- 2nd: In-Depth Reporting - Julia Contarelli
- 2nd: Photo Illustration - Marshall Cearfoss
- 2nd: Single Subject Presentation - Julia Contarelli
- 2nd: Sports Feature Story - Benjamin Savallo
- 2nd: Sports News Story - Benjamin Savallo
- 2nd: Sports Page Design - Benjamin Savallo
- 2nd: Special Edition - Staff
- 2nd: Overall Excellence
- 3rd: Editorial - Staff
- 3rd: Feature Story - Haley Schukei
- 3rd: Headline Writing - Jesse Drabek
- 3rd: Information Graphic - Marshall Cearfoss
- 3rd: Spanish News Writing - Haley Huston
- 3rd: Sports Feature Photo - Rebecca Najera

### ONLINE: DIVISION 2

- 1st: Best Website Navigation
- 1st: Best Breaking News Video - Rob King
- 1st: Best Use of Data - Julia Contarelli
- 1st: Best Use of Mapping - Ben Savallo
- 1st: Best Multimedia Package - Haley Huston and Sabrah Shipman
- 1st: Best Video Package - Aji Sakho
- 2nd: Best Breaking News Video - Haley Huston
- 2nd: Best Interactivity
- 2nd: Audio Slideshow - Austin Myles
- 3rd: Best Breaking News Package - Julia Contarelli
- HM: Best Use of Mapping - Julia Contarelli

### RADIO: OPEN DIVISION

- 2nd: Feature Story - Haley Brewer
- 2nd: Production - Isaiah Thornton
- 2nd: Spot Commercial/PSA - Karaline Harrell

### TELEVISION: OPEN DIVISION

- 1st: Public Affairs Program - Rob King
- HM: Spot Commercial/PSA - Stefany Ostoin
- HM: Best Newscast - Staff

### ON-SITE COMPETITIONS

- 2nd: Live Video News - Rob King
- 2nd: Spanish TV Announcing - Alejandra Hurtado
- 2nd: Television Advertising - Rebecca Najera
- HM: Best of Show Division 3 - Staff
- HM: Print Advertising - Marshall Cearfoss
- HM: Print Sports Story - Ben Savallo
- HM: TV Announcing - Rob King

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